



COUNCILMEMBER CARL DeMAIO

FIFTH DISTRICT

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

October 26, 2011

Chair Mary K. Shallenberger
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Support for the New Navy Headquarters Project in San Diego (CD-047-90).

Dear Chair Mary K. Shallenberger and Honorable Commissioners:

The Coastal Commission will be hearing the very important Navy Broadway Complex item on Wednesday, November 2.

This project will bring up to \$1 billion dollars in state-of-the-art redevelopment to one of the most blighted parts of San Diego's downtown waterfront and will provide greater public access and additional open space to the embarcadero. It is important for the continued beautification and redevelopment of San Diego's waterfront that this project moves forward.

Additionally, this project is vital to San Diego's economic future as we ensure that the Navy continues to be one of the largest employers in our region. As defense spending will likely to be put under scrutiny nationwide, it is essential that San Diego continues to be an attractive location and cooperative partner with the Department of the Navy as operations are consolidated into fewer locations.

Ensuring that the Navy Broadway Complex moves forward is an important way that San Diego, and the State of California, can send a clear message to the Navy: "We want to partner with you and ensure that well-paying jobs stay here."

I strongly urge the Commission to support the Navy's consistency determination and find the project to be consistent with the Commission's previous findings.

Your own staff report provides you with ample justification to allow this project to proceed forward. The proposal is very clearly "consistent with the overall development plan and urban design guidelines included in the consistency determination." (Page 3 of staff report.) No aspect of that has changed since the initial adoption of the consistency determination.

As the staff report goes on to say, there is no permit question before the Commission, and the project has not substantially changed enough to warrant the Navy and developer to go back to the drawing board.

By holding up this project, the Commission would be doing a disservice to the millions of San Diegans each year who rely on the Navy for employment and desire to see San Diego's waterfront revitalized and public access to the waterfront enhanced.

Rather than enduring chain-link fences, crumbling asphalt parking lots, and dilapidated office buildings built decades ago, the Commission has the opportunity to ensure that a new, well-planned, and environmentally sensitive campus of parks, large pedestrian walkways, office space, hotel rooms, and residential areas will greet visitors and residents as they enjoy San Diego's beautiful embarcadero.

I sincerely hope the Coastal Commission will make the right choice and allow this project to move forward.

In service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carl DeMaio". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Carl DeMaio
Councilmember